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10% to 40% Discount

## Sale of Furniture Begins Tuesday

Next Tuesday morning the District's greatest Furniture Sale opens again. It is an event that has become looked upon as a fixture. Long years of value-giving and positive reductions have made Hecht & Co.'s Half-Yearly Furniture Sale a most important institution.

Every article of Furniture is reduced from 10% to 40%. Rugs are at liberal discounts, too!

Back Stronger Than Ever

Tuesday



Thursday, Friday and Saturday our friends came to share in this noteworthy Clean-Sweep. Tuesday—and for the rest of the week—additional bargains will be put into the sale.

# Hecht & Co.

Seventh Street, Between E and F.

## BURLESON CHARGED WITH BREAKING LAW

Employees' Representative Alleges  
Violation of 8-Hour Statute.

Charles that Postmaster General Burleson is violating the eight-hour law and breaking down labor standards were made by Thomas F. Flaherty, secretary treasurer of the National Federation of Postal Employees, last night.

He stated that the Postmaster General told only a "half truth" in his recent statements blaming mail delays on the railroads.

"The train service is demoralized, its true" said Mr. Flaherty, "but it cannot be used as a barrier to hide the administrative defects of the postal service."

An inadequate and overworked force of mail distributors is the principal factor in the breakdown in the postal service, Mr. Flaherty said. Distributors are working on a ten-hour schedule, he declared.

## RITES FOR S. C. McDOWELL.

Funeral services for Samuel C. McDowell, president of McDowell & Sons, millers and wholesale feed dealers, will be held at the residence, 2112 First street northwest, tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Mr. McDowell was born in Delaware in 1852 and came to this city in 1882. He retired from business ten years ago. He leaves four children—James H. McDowell, Albert S. McDowell, Frank McDowell and Mrs. Guy Ruff.

## FITS

Dr. May's Treatment cures worst cases of Epilepsy, Spasms, Convulsions, Nervous Disorders. Generous \$2.00 bottle sent free. STAY-A-SO LONG. H. MAY, 545 PEARL ST., NEW YORK.

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## WILSON AVERSE TO PROPOSED WAR CABINET

Executive Said to Oppose  
Senate Bill Creating  
New Board.

Creation of a war cabinet was put squarely up to President Wilson yesterday.

Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, took the Senate Military Committee's bill proposing the war cabinet to Secretary of War Baker. Later the President went to the War Department where he and Mr. Baker were closeted in conference.

It is said that the President will oppose the bill as well as the measure instituting a Director of Munitions.

**President Against It.**  
The President's opposition to the creation of the war cabinet and the ministry of munitions is based on his aversion to "swopping horses in the middle of a stream," according to sources close to the White House.

The time has now arrived for action, according to the White House view. And action cannot be speeded by the interposition of another executive agency.

Nevertheless, the Senate Committee will insist upon the bill and the elimination of the secretaries. If the administration relaxes and seems at all friendly to the plan, the bill will be pushed at once.

Stinging criticisms are being made in both House of Congress of dilatory tactics in preparedness and an utter lack of co-ordination in governmental agencies. The war cabinet is being urged as the panacea for all these evils.

The cabinet will be composed of three men of broad vision, who have demonstrated their ability and their grasp of public affairs. It is particularly desired that they shall be of the type of the mental training. The same salary as ordinary cabinet minister—\$12,000—would be paid each of the three.

**Might Appoint Baker.**  
It is understood that Mr. Baker, while not as friendly to the measure as he was said to have been upon a former occasion, has shown a willingness to compromise, and has agreed that some further re-organization was necessary. It is also understood, however, that he is still unflinchingly against a Director of Munitions. This official would remove the purchasing power from Mr. Baker's portfolio.

Some members of the Senate committee do not believe that President Wilson would base opposition to the war cabinet upon the ground that Mr. Baker or Mr. Daniels would be eliminated from the organization. The point was made today that he would nominate these men as members of the cabinet if they resigned their present positions. It is certain, however, that if President Wilson sent Mr. Baker's nomination to Congress, a terrific and determined battle would ensue in the Senate.

Insistence was made inside the Senate committee upon the designation of "cabinet" in preference to "council." A "cabinet" was argued to be administrative, while a "council" would be purely advisory.

The committee is of the opinion that it is to be a super-cabinet acting directly with the President.

It would sit continuously determining the great war questions and planning for the future.

Even if the bill is passed, the Senate Military Committee will not cease its probe of the War Department. It has been contended that there would be no further need for the investigation, because the war cabinet would prevent repetition of the delays and acts of omission. But the Senate committee feels that more inquiry is necessary in order to guard against many evils that must never again occur.

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
TO MEET THURSDAY**

With the selection of Thursdays preceding the second and fourth Mondays of each month, which are District days in the House, for their meeting times, the House District Committee will now look to Representative Ben Johnson, of Kentucky, its chairman, for appointment of substitute.

After he had received authorization from the committee to make up the subcommittee, Representative Johnson yesterday said he hoped to have them completed Tuesday or Wednesday.

Alleged profiteering in the District by merchants and lodging house keepers was discussed yesterday. Chairman Johnson told the members he was prepared to introduce a bill very soon upon this subject.

**Firemen to Organize  
National Union Here**

Under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor, a meeting will be held for the international organization of firemen of the United States in Washington, February 25.

Delegates from the local union of District firemen will meet the incoming delegates and assist in the organization. Delegates from the Washington body will be: R. C. Oden, Sergt. W. A. Smith and Capt. Edward O'Connor. The committee to meet visiting consists of Sergt. Smith, Thomas Buckley, E. Allman, M. W. Thayer, J. T. Mooney and S. M. Gallahan.

This Store will remain Closed tomorrow In obedience to the requirement of The Fuel Administration.

Read Our Announcement in Tuesday's Herald.

**THE GAMOND COMPANY**  
402 Seventh Street

PAT O'BRIEN, lieutenant in the Royal British Flying Corps, who is distinguished by being the first American to escape from a German prison. The Herald was fortunate in securing an exclusive interview with him during his thirty-minute stay in the Union Station yesterday afternoon.



## Lieut. Pat O'Brien, Once Huns' Captive, in Capital

American Flight Officer in British Service  
Tells of Escape from German Prison  
Train Running 35 Miles an Hour.

By NELL FREEMAN.

Who do you think was in Washington yesterday? Pat O'Brien, lieutenant in the Royal British Flying Corps, and—the first American—to escape from a German prison.

Lieut. O'Brien was in Washington just thirty minutes, between trains, but he is so full of his adventures that he can give you all sorts of thrilling stories in ever so short a while.

Lieut. O'Brien is some escaper. He was wounded in an air battle back of Ypres last September—that is, he supposes he was wounded, for he woke up next day in a German hospital with his mouth all bandaged up.

**Got Three Planes**

Don't you think, though, that he didn't get in some good work before the Boches got him. He brought down three Hun airplanes before he was finally wounded in the mouth.

"When I woke up," said Lieut. O'Brien, "I was in the hospital, and a German doctor was saying, 'I see you are an American.' When I was able to be transported I was put on a prison train bound for the German prison camp at Coutray, Belgium. I jumped from the window of the moving train—

"And how fast was it going?" you naturally inquire.

"About thirty-five miles an hour, but I knew it was my only chance. I landed on my face and was pretty badly scratched up. The guards didn't mind me until the train had gone about twenty miles, and when they returned to look for me, I was well on my way. This was on September 9, and just seventy-two days later I traveled up at the head of a prison train, having undergone more than two months of the most awful experience. I tramped my way through Germany, Luxembourg and Belgium.

**In British Uniform.**  
"For the first month I had on my British uniform, and I had some very narrow escapes. I hid by day and traveled by night, managing to keep life in my body by eating raw vegetables and grain from the fields through which I passed. When finally I got to Holland, the British consul fitted me up with clothes and I returned to England on furlough."

Lieut. O'Brien said the principal objection he had to being confined in a German war prison was the fact that he didn't get enough to eat.

"For breakfast," he said, "we had coffee—and a piece of bread if you had saved any from the day before, which I seldom did, because I was always hungry enough to eat everything then and there. For lunch, or dinner, we would have some weak, boiled sugar beets or cabbage, and war bread, with an occasional small bit of meat. For supper they gave us jam made of sugar beets, tea—such tea (you had to shake it every minute or so, otherwise the tea would all settle at the bottom)—and once in a great while a infinitesimal quantity of butter. We did not get meat except at very long intervals."

**U. S. A. Called Windbag.**  
Lieut. O'Brien says that America is called "the windbag" by the Germans, and that the German soldiers are taught to regard America's entrance into the war as a great joke.

"However," he said, "they seem to expect that America will raise a big army, even if they do pretend not to take us seriously."

In addition to having the honor of being the first American to escape from the Germans, Lieut. O'Brien also enjoys the distinction of having had a 52-minute audience with King George of England—which is said to be the longest audience ever granted to any soldier of rank less than a general.

King George sent for Lieut. O'Brien as soon as he arrived in London and heard from him the whole story of his escape.

Lieutenant O'Brien enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps in the latter part of 1916. He had up to that time been a member of the American flying corps at San Diego, California, but, longing for active service, he enlisted in the British flying corps. His home is in Muncie, Illinois. He is now on his way there to visit his mother, Mrs. Margaret O'Brien.

**He's Writing a Book.**  
Lieut. O'Brien is 27 years of age. He is now on furlough, and has not decided whether he will return to the British Royal Flying Corps or enlist in the American army.

"At present," he said, "I am engaged in writing a book, telling about those seventy-two days from the time I escaped until I arrived in Holland. You wouldn't imagine so much could happen to one in seventy-two days, but enough happened to me to fill a number of man-size volumes."

**WE WON'T RESIGN,  
IS LIBRARY SLOGAN**

"Victoria Cross" Worn by Employees  
Loyal Despite Low Pay.

"V. C. I will not resign." That's the slogan on a little badge which some employees of the Public Library have been wearing. The "V. C." means "Victoria Cross," of course, and the rest is self-explanatory.

The high salaries offered in the government departments have lured some employees of the Public Library, but there are those to whom the well-used volumes of the library mean more than gold, and they have sworn allegiance. They have "signed the pledge" of loyalty, and no matter how temptingly the higher salaries offered in other occupations may be held up to them, they will withstand temptation and stick to their old jobs. The Victoria Cross was decided upon by those employees who made up their minds to "stay with the ship."

Dr. George F. Bowerman brought this matter to the attention of the library trustees at their meeting yesterday. The salaries of the library employees are fixed by Congress, and unless that body authorizes an increase these loyal members of the library staff may experience considerable sacrifice because of their pledge to stick.

Henry Fielding Dickens, K. C., sixth son of the famous novelist, has succeeded Sir Albert Bosanquet as common sergeant of London, an office which carries with it a salary of \$15,000 a year.

## NEW RUSSIAN RULERS FACE FRESH CRISIS

The Anti-Bolshevik Faction  
Shows Strength in Con-  
stituent Assembly.

The trouble between the Petrograd government and Rumania is due to the anti-Bolshevik tendencies of the general in command of the Russian troops in Rumania, rather than to Rumanian opposition, according to information in official quarters here.

The incident is considered to have special significance in view of the anti-Bolshevik victory of the constituent assembly at Petrograd. The convening of the assembly is proving the crucial test of Bolshevik power.

Officials believe that the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk will be allowed to continue pending the result of the political struggle in Petrograd. It is also believed that the German foreign minister, von Huelsen, will be left in the city to the negotiations of the central power until control at Petrograd has been settled.

Should the constituent assembly elect a government at Petrograd it is predicted that Gen. Hoffman, pan-German leader, will assume the leadership at Brest-Litovsk and that negotiations will be abruptly terminated.

In Russian circles here it is admitted that the meeting of the constituent assembly will by no means end turmoil in Petrograd. While the constituent assembly claims to represent all the Russians and sit as the legal successors of the revolutionary government, which all the nations recognized under Kerensky, the Congress of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates and Peasants' Congress are also national bodies meeting in Petrograd and claiming the reflect national opinion.

The Bolsheviks, through their control of Petrograd by the Red Guard, dominate the Workmen and Soldiers' Congress. As the successors of the Kerensky government they claim to speak with authority for Russia.

It is admitted here that pro-ally sentiment is growing in Russia. The Germans have already lost prestige through their insistence in holding troops in the occupied provinces until a general peace is signed. Ambassador Francis, according to recent reports, is strengthening the position of both England and the United States with the elements that will control the constituent assembly.

**PLAN TO HOOVERIZE  
WHALE AND LOBSTER**

Sea Food Saving Object of American-Canadian Conference.

Amity between the United States and Canada due to the war, is saving the lobster industry. The Canadian members of the joint fisheries commission arrived in Washington yesterday, and the saving of lobsters through mutual control of the industry on the Atlantic coast is one of the questions to be taken up to increase the food supply on both Pacific and Atlantic coasts.

Long standing disputes between American and Canadian salmon fishermen on the northwest coast and disputes on the Grand Banks of the Atlantic will also be settled. The questions down for discussion include the protection of salmon in the Fraser River; of the halibut in the Puget Sound; of the salmon in Seattle, Vancouver, Prince Rupert and Retchikan; equitable use of the ports of both nations by the vessels of the other; lobster fishing; pike-pike fishing in Lake Champlain, and possible rules for the whale industry.

The entire commission will hold meetings in Boston, Gloucester, the Maritime provinces and on the Pacific coast. Notice of these will be given and all interested persons will be heard.

The Canadian members of the commission are: Hon. J. Douglas Hazen, George J. Desbarats, M. C. C. E., and William A. Found. The American members are Secretary Redfield, of the Commerce Department; Edward W. Street, assistant secretary; and Dr. Hugh M. Smith, commissioner of fisheries.

**TWENTY TO TRY FOR  
G. U. DEBATING TEAM**

Trials of candidates who desire to qualify as speakers for the first intercollegiate debate at Georgetown University for Tuesdays, so far as the debate will be held tonight in Gaston Hall, on the Hilltop. About twenty candidates have announced their intention of speaking and a mass meeting of the students of the college will hear the orators.

Six men will be chosen at tonight's preliminaries to represent Georgetown in the debate with Colgate University next month. There will be three principal speakers and three alternates.

The meeting tonight will be under the auspices of the Georgetown Debating Society.

**Four Injured When  
Taxicab Turns Over**

In trying to avoid a collision with a motorcycle last night, James O'Malley, of Arlington, Va., owner and operator of a taxicab, overturned his machine, throwing Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Trumbull, of Painesville, Conn., and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert J. Mills, of Bristol, Conn., occupants of the machine to the ground.

Mr. Mills was the most seriously injured, receiving a dislocated arm. Others received cuts about the face and body and were removed to the Casualty Hospital.

The taxicab was badly damaged.

**MISS RICHARDS TO SPEAK.**

Miss Janet Richards is fortunate in being able to secure the Knickerbocker Theater for Tuesdays, so far as I have been able to learn, she will give her weekly talks on public questions. She will give a general review of affairs both at home and abroad this week.

**OSCAR W. WHITE BURIED.**

Funeral services for Oscar W. White were held yesterday in St. Margaret's Church, Rev. Herbert Scott Smith officiating, and the Knights Templar of Columbia Commandery, No. 2, assisting. The pallbearers, who were business associates, were: David A. Offutt, W. R. Wilcox, Phelan C. Hawn, George McIlwain, John Scrivener and Charles W. Madent. Interment was in Rock Creek Cemetery.

**DANCES AND SOCIALS  
FOR BOYS IN KHAKI**

Soldiers to Be Dinner Guests in Many Homes Today.

Soldier boys in Washington did not lack somewhere to go yesterday, nor will they be unprovided for in the way of entertainment today. Various churches held open house last night, with dancing and refreshments in many of them. A number of clubs were also opened to the soldiers, and a dance for soldiers and other strangers in the city was given last night by the Knights of Columbus at 806 E street.

All of the socials and dances were attended by boys in khaki. Today numerous churches will pursue their usual hospitable custom of having the members "take a soldier boy home to dinner," and in the evening supper will be served to soldiers in some of the churches.

Soldiers will be given a hearty welcome, and in some instances a hearty meal, by many church members today.

**PILES DON'T BE CUT**  
Until You Try This Wonderful Treatment.

The internal method of treatment is the correct one, and is sanctioned by the best informed physicians and surgeons. Ointments, salves and other local applications give only temporary relief.

If you have piles in any form write for FREE sample of Page's Pile Tablets and you will bless the day that you read this. Write today. E. R. Page, 539A, Main St., Marshall, Mich.

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Sets of Teeth.....\$5.00 up  
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EASY PAYMENTS TO ALL

## Wife of Minister Trotzky Is His One Greatest Aid

Closest Adviser in Writing of His Political Documents and Firm Believer in All His Theories of Government.

New York, Jan. 19.—Those in intimate touch with Leon Trotzky, Russian minister of foreign affairs, a year ago, during his stay of three months in this city, tell interesting stories of the domestic life of his wife.

He is pictured as a model husband and father, devoting two hours each day to the education of his two young sons and relying upon his wife as first among his advisers.

Mrs. Trotzky, as described by frequent visitors to the apartment at 1522 Vyse avenue, the Bronx, where the Bolshevik leader lived in New York, is a woman of culture and intelligence. Unlike her husband, who is a Russian Jew, she is a Gentile, but in all his theories of government she is a firm believer.

**Aide on Political Writings.**  
It is said by those in position to know that Trotzky's strongest political pamphlets have been written with his wife's assistance, she advising, suggesting and interpolating as the writing progressed. But it is her temperament that profits Trotzky most, their friends agree. He is at times nervous and morose, according to the fluctuations of his political fortunes, but she is ever the same—cheerful, vivacious and hopeful.

She is well remembered in the neighborhood of her Bronx home as the woman who was always smiling. Trotzky was rarely seen without her. She accompanied him to and from the editorial sanctum of the New York Times.

**She Led Him to Seat.**  
It proved a fiasco at the best, but the wife of Mrs. Trotzky took the sting out of it. Trotzky started his English speech, stumbled at the second sentence, floundered along helplessly for another moment and came to a halt. As he stood, red-faced and miserable, racking his brain for the elusive English words, the audience giggled, then burst into laughter.

It was the first time that he had been laughed at by a Social gathering, and he looked helplessly at his wife, smiling encouragement from a front seat.

She went to his rescue, mounting the platform, and led him to his seat while she laughingly pleaded with the crowd to forgive and forget his awful English.

Then she gathered his friends about her and led the merriest that the crowd to forgive and forget his awful English.

**Airman G. T. Buckley  
WRITES FROM ITALY**

Georgetown University Student in Training for War Service.

A message from the Italian front to his friends in Washington has just been received from Charles T. Buckley, a member of the first year class in the law school of Georgetown University last year, who is preparing for service with the Italian flyers. Buckley is engaged to a Washington girl and is hopeful that the war will soon end, so that he may return to America, but he writes that he is determined to do his bit until the cause of the allies is triumphant.

The aviator's message is to Hugh J. Pegan, secretary of the law school here, which testifies to his eligibility for at least a first lieutenancy in the U. S. army and also for the renowned Italian insignia, the Golden Eagle.

We are in training here to become pilots on Capronis, of which plane, I take it, you have heard a great deal. Bombing, I am told, is to be the main topic in the great aerial game which our country is preparing for. So probably after our course is finished here we will be sent back to the States as instructors or dispatched to the front for service. We are not far from the actual battle lines. The Caproni plane has been adopted by the Italian forces for bombing.

"There is nothing much else that I can tell you, except that we are the only Americans in Italy engaged in this branch of the service, so far as I have been able to learn, and the people here are perfectly wonderful to us. They have organized a class in Italian for us at the Technical Institute in Foggia."

**Take My Advice and Use Stuart's  
Dyspepsia Tablets if Want a  
Pretty Skin.**

Digestive troubles ruin the complexion. The sour, fermented, gassy contents poison the blood, break down the face that hungry, haggard, mournful expression in the morning and you are tired all day. It is not what you eat but the faulty digestion that hurts. Eat anything you like and let Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets digest your food, tone your stomach, supply your blood with nourishment, then good looks, a healthy appearance and bright eyes will soon return. Get a 50-cent box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets at any drug store. They are real health makers—Adv.

**House & Herrmann**  
Seventh and Eye Streets.

In obedience to the order of the Fuel Administrator our store will be

**CLOSED  
MONDAYS**

The customary advertisement of today will appear in Monday's Star.